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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/755,830	01/12/2004	Craig William Fellenstein	AUS920030617US1	9828

7590 12/23/2005

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EXAMINER	
NGUYEN, QUYNH H	
ART UNIT	**PAPER NUMBER**
2642	

DATE MAILED: 12/23/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/755,830	FELLENSTEIN ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Quynh H. Nguyen	2642	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *amendment filed 10/7/05*.

2a)☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b)☐ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1-21* is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *1-21* is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a)☐ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Amendment

1. Applicant's amendment filed 10/7/05 has been entered. Claims 1-4, 8-14, and 17-20 have been amended. No claims have been cancelled. Claim 21 has been added. Claims 1-21 are still pending in this application, with claims 1, 9, and 12 being independent.

2. The text of those sections of Title 35, U.S. Code not included in this action can be found in a prior Office action.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. Claims 1, 3, 7-8, 11-12, 14, 16-17, and 20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Chen et al. (Pub. No: US 2003/0035381) in view of Eaton et al. (U.S. Patent 5,483,588) and further in view of Wilson (U.S. Patent 6,192,119).

As to claim 1, Chen et al. teach a method for managing the activities of a teleconference meeting (page 1, [0005]) comprising the steps of:

notifying potential participants of a teleconference meeting (page 1, [0007], lines 6-8);

creating a profile of potential teleconference meeting participants (page 2, [0019], lines 7-10);

initiating a connection attempt with each participant at the host and establishing a connection with each participant prior to the beginning of the teleconference meeting (page 2, [0016], lines 21-24 and [0019], lines 14-18).

Chen et al. do not teach monitoring teleconference related activities occurring during the teleconference meeting, initiating actions in response to event detected and tracking the initiated responses; and generating a report of the activities that occurred during the teleconference meeting at the end of the teleconference meeting.

Eaton et al. teach monitoring activities occurring during the teleconference meeting (col. 9, lines 48-51), for example, monitoring the operator that handles any request by a caller regarding conference activities, initiating actions in response to events detected and tracking the initiated responses (abstract, lines 12-20; col. 13, lines 58-64), for example, taking a "roll call" to determine who are currently joining or attending the conference, and hence the system will keep track of who are not attending or left the conference.

Finally, Eaton et al. does not teach generating a report of the teleconference activities. However, again, generating reports is extremely old and well known in the telecommunications arts. Reports are generated for reasons ranging from mere statistical gathering motives to information gathering in an effort to provide a more convenient or efficient system. In other words, information is collected so that the system and system designers can learn from the activities and adjust the teleconference system accordingly. Moreover, Wilson teaches that a goal of his invention is to allow the individual participants to bear their respective teleconference

charges instead of the teleconference initiator. (Col. 1, lines 34 - 37 of Wilson) Therefore, it is inherent that some report, even simply a billing report would be generated. If this were not done, it would be impossible to keep track of each participant's respective charges. Because Eaton et al. teaches that one of the occurring teleconference activities, as discussed above, is detecting when a teleconference participant disconnects, monitoring an activity such as disconnection and generating a report would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made.

As to claims 3 and 14, Chen et al. teach the step of determining which participants have confirmed availability for the meeting (page 1, [0007], lines 9-11).

As to claims 7 and 16, Eaton et al. teach building a list of confirmed participants (abstract, lines 9-12 and also claims 2-4).

As to claim 8, Chen et al. teach monitoring confirmed participant list for changes to the gathered alternative contact information of the participant or the participant's availability for the teleconference meeting (page 2, [0019] - *where Chen discussed during the execution of a conference call, scheduling element 50 receives various inputs such as reach number list, etc., hence changes to alternative contact information and availability*).

As to claim 11, Chen et al. do not teach simultaneously with the monitoring step, the step of recording the activities of the meeting.

Eaton et al. teach simultaneously with the monitoring step, the step of recording the activities of the meeting (col. 15, lines 54-65).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate the feature of recording the activities of the meeting simultaneously with the monitoring, as taught by Eaton, in Chen's system thus making the system more convenient and efficient by allowing to play back teleconference call recorded earlier wherever need, as taught by Eaton (col. 15, lines 63-65).

As to claim 12, the limitation of the claim is the same as the limitation of claim 1; therefore, the claim is interpreted and rejected for the same reasons as set forth in claim 1 above. Furthermore, Chen et al. teach a computer program product in a computer readable medium comprising instructions for use in managing the activities of a teleconference meeting (Fig. 1, and page 1, [0006], [007], and [0010] - *where Chen discussed a participant communicate with both network controlling server and web server for teleconference call, using web server and database to send messages to the network controlling server, the scheduler and notification servers utilized in conjunction with the web server to set up a conference call, hence a computer program product in a computer readable medium comprising instructions for use in managing the activities of a teleconference meeting*).

As to claim 17, the limitation of the claim is the same as the limitation of claim 8; therefore, the claim is interpreted and rejected for the same reasons as set forth in claim 8 above. Furthermore, Chen et al. teach computer program product comprising instructions to perform steps recited in claim 8 (Fig. 1 and page 1, [0007] and page 2, [0019]).

As to claim 20, the limitation of the claim is the same as the limitation of claim 11; therefore, the claim is interpreted and rejected for the same reasons as set forth in claim 11 above. Furthermore, Chen et al. teach computer program product comprising instructions to perform steps recited in claim 8 (Fig. 1 and page 1, [0007] and page 2, [0019]).

4. Claims 2, 4-6, 13, and 15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Chen et al. (Pub. No: US 2003/0035381) in view of Eaton et al. (U.S. Patent 5,483,588), in view of Wilson (U.S. Patent 6,192,119) and further in view of Wu (U.S. Patent 6,275,575).

As to claim 2, Chen, Eaton, and Wilson do not teach the step of gathering information about the alternative means for contacting the participant; and placing this information in a storage location for access as needed by the host of the teleconference meeting.

Wu teaches gathering information about the alternative means for contacting the participant (Fig. 6); and placing this information in a storage location (*coordinating server device*) for access as needed by the host (*coordinator*) of the teleconference meeting (col. 9, lines 60-65).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate the feature of gathering information about the alternative means for contacting the participant; and placing this information in a storage location for access as needed by the host of the teleconference meeting, as taught by

Wu, in Chen's, Eaton's, and Wilson's systems thus making the system more efficient by locating participants at alternate telephone numbers in the event the participants are not available at the primary contact number.

As to claim 4, Chen et al. teach telephone meeting information comprises time of the meeting, date of the meeting (page 2, [0019], lines 7-9) and numbers of participants attending the meeting (page 2, [0019], lines 9-10 - *where Chen discussed receiving inputs from web server participant name, hence one can easily count the participants to obtain the numbers of participants attending the meeting*).

As to claim 5, Chen, Eaton, and Wilson do not teach sending each confirming participant a request for alternative contact information.

Wu teaches for each confirming participant *(selected participant)* with associated confirming contact information, subscribers may be granted limited access to the dedicated storage areas assigned to other subscribers (col. 7, lines 54-59). What Wu does not teach is sending each confirming participant a request for alternative contact information.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made the feature of sending each confirming participant a request for alternative contact information in Chen's, Eaton's, and Wilson's systems thus making the system more efficient by locating participants at alternate telephone numbers in the event the participants are not available at the primary contact number.

As to claim 6, Chen, Eaton, and Wilson do not teach contact information includes a priority list of alternative contact means of the participant.

Wu teaches contact information includes a priority list of alternative contact means of the participant (Fig. 6 and col. 9, lines 60-65 - *where Wu discussed participant's preferred contact information for specified time periods, for example in Fig. 6, contact first alternate number between 1:30PM - 4:00PM and second alternate number between 6:30PM - 7:00PM, hence priority list of alternative contact means).*

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate the feature of contact information includes a priority list of alternative contact means of the participant, as taught by Wu, in Chen's, Eaton's, and Wilson's systems thus making the system more efficient by quickly locating participants at alternate telephone numbers according to the priority list of alternative contact in the event the participants are not available at the primary contact number.

As to claim 13, the limitation of the claim is the same as the limitation of claim 2; therefore, the claim is interpreted and rejected for the same reasons as set forth in claim 2 above. Furthermore, Wu teach computer program product comprising instructions to perform steps recited in claim 13 (col. 9, lines 60-65).

As to claim 15, the limitation of the claim is the same as the limitation of claim 5; therefore, the claim is interpreted and rejected for the same reasons as set forth in claim 5 above. Furthermore, Wu teach computer program product comprising instructions to perform steps recited in claim 15 (col. 7, lines 48-65).

5. Claims 9-10, 18-19, and 21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Chen et al. (Pub. No: US 2003/0035381) in view of Eaton et al. (U.S.

Patent 5,483,588), in view of Wilson (U.S. Patent 6,192,119) and further in view of Malik (U.S. Patent 6,801,610).

As to claim 9, the limitation of the claim is the same as the limitation of claim 1; therefore, the claim is interpreted and rejected for the same reasons as set forth in claim 1 above. Furthermore, Eaton et al. teach playing back the recorded conference call to authorized callers (col. 15, lines 62-65). However, Chen, Elliott, and Wilson do not teach determining whether a successful connection was established with a participant during initial call attempt; authenticating the participant identification when the connection attempt was successful; capture acknowledgements from connected participants.

Malik teaches determining whether a successful connection was established (col. 6, line 4 - *where Malik discussed a participant answered the call, hence successful connection was establish*) with a participant during initial call attempt (Fig. 2, 208 and 210); authenticating the participant identification when the connection attempt was successful (col. 6, lines 5-7); capturing acknowledgements from connected participants (Abstract, line 17-19); and lastly the SCP 101 notifies the SN 82 as participants are added to the conference call (col. 6, lines 14-15).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate the features of determining whether a successful connection was established with a participant during initial call attempt; authenticating the participant identification when the connection attempt was successful; and capture acknowledgements from connected participants, as taught by Malik, in Chen's, Eaton's

and Wilson's systems thus making the system more secure and ease by allowing conference call originators or hosts to authenticate participants as the receive the conference call, as discussed by Malik (col. 1, lines 56-60).

As to claim 10, the limitation of the claim is the same as the limitations 5, 6, and 7 of claim 9; therefore, the claim is interpreted and rejected for the same reasons as set forth in claim 9 above.

As to claims 18 and 21, Chen, Eaton, and Wilson do not teach determining whether a successful connection was established with a participant during call attempt; and initiating the call attempt to alternate contact device for that participant when previous call attempt to establish a connection was unsuccessful.

Malik teaches determining whether a successful connection was established (col. 6, line 4 - *where Malik discussed a participant answered the call, hence successful connection was establish*) with a participant during call attempt (Fig. 2, 208 and 210); and initiating the call attempt to alternate contact device for that participant when previous call attempt to establish a connection was unsuccessful (Fig. 2, 208 and 221 and col. 5. lines 62-64).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate the features of determining whether a successful connection was established with a participant during call attempt; and initiating the call attempt to alternate contact device for that participant when previous call attempt to establish a connection was unsuccessful, as taught by Malik, in Chen's, Eaton's, and Wilson's systems thus making the system more efficient by locating participants at

alternate telephone numbers in the event the participants are not available at the primary contact number.

As to claim 19, the limitation of the claim is the same as the limitation of claim 10; therefore, the claim is interpreted and rejected for the same reasons as set forth in claim 10 above. Furthermore, Malik teach computer program product comprising instructions to perform steps recited in claim 19 (col. 4, lines 8-28).

Response to Arguments

6. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-21 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

7. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of

the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

8. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Quynh H. Nguyen whose telephone number is 571-272-7489. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Thursday from 6:15 A.M. to 4:45 P.M.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ahmad Matar, can be reached on 571-272-7488. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

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BING Q. BUI
PRIMARY EXAMINER